Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
State Forest Resource Management Guide Public Comment Summary

SUMMARY COMMENTS

<u>Jackson Washington State Forest</u> <u>Compartment 2 Tract 17</u> <u>30 Day Comment Period Ending: 10/18/2012</u> <u>Comments Received: 1</u>

The table below is a summary of public comments received concerning the draft Resource Management Guide (DRMG). The public comments received have been reviewed in their entirety and given due consideration summarized in the Division of Forestry response below.

Comment Summary	Division of Forestry Response
 Concern on potential impacts to wildlife and RTE species (e.g. Indiana Bat). Recommends following US Fish & Wildlife Service Management Guidelines to prevent take of the Indiana bat. Concern on potential site impacts and soil erosion on sloping lands. Concern on the potential aesthetic and other impacts to nearby residences. Recommends a 50' buffer next to residences. Concern on recreation impacts to nearby archery range. Supports the management focus on Shagbark hickory and White Oak for wildlife values as outlined in the RMG. Apposes making tree harvest selection decisions based on tree maturity 	 As standard practice, the Division of Forestry consults with and utilizes guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to conserve habitat and avoid take impacts to the Indiana bat. Habitats, communities and wildlife species are considered as part of the management planning process. Further information on direct and indirect impacts on species and habitats are found in the Indiana State Forest Environmental Assessment. http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-StateForests_EA.pdf The proposed management will temporarily disrupt recreational use of the area during which the area will be closed to public access for safety reasons. The archery range utility will not be directly impacted. Neighboring residences will be considered during plan implementation. Best management practices will be implemented and monitored to address the soil erosion and sedimentation concerns. BMPs will be required of operator and included in timber sales contracts. The prescribed management activities are supported by inventory data and field assessments. The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.